

this place. I'm so disappointed with the direction our country has gone the last 40 to 50 years that has broken that apart.

I have an obligation to my wife and my four kids. One of the most difficult things in contemplating what goes on with this role of service that I've been blessed with by the voters in my district is the time away from home. Being from the west coast, it's a heck of a commitment. With a 5-hour plane ride each way and all that, you don't just get to pop in like when I was in the State legislature in Sacramento and you get home most nights.

That's the kind of thing that keeps me worrying sometimes, worrying a little bit: Am I doing right by my kids? We do this here—I think anyone that runs for office—ostensibly with the idea that we're trying to help the next generation and preserve the country and preserve our freedoms. But there's a sacrifice in this job. It kind of all comes back to perspective.

Father's Day, the other day, I got to spend home with the family. All my kids either got me a little something or made a little card. Very, very touching things said in those cards reminded me that, yeah, we are here trying to do something for them, preserve their rights, their opportunities, their liberties, and that they understand, even though I don't always get to be home, that it is for them.

□ 2050

So that makes me feel good about doing this—about taking on the huge issues here, the long hours, the sometimes fruitless battles, and people looking at us from the outside with our, maybe, 10 percent approval rating, wondering, What the heck are you doing back there in Washington, D.C.? We all know we're here for a good reason.

We have an obligation as dads to be there for our wives and for our kids, which is nothing new, but it's the dedication. They need to know that we're there for them, that we're fighting for something, whether it's our more day-to-day jobs—if you're a butcher or a baker or a candlestick maker—or if you're back here getting to be part of the U.S. Congress.

The importance of a dad to a son can't be overstated. You need a man in the life to guide your son to the right path, to be that strong voice, to keep your son in the position, first of all, of respecting his mother, of respecting his sisters, of respecting women—of what that role is supposed to be. They need that, and a lot of them have lost out on that. It's sad. We see the tragedy. Some of these kids are walking the streets, and they grow up to be in gangs and so much because they didn't have that.

A dad has a very strong role with his daughters—to ensure that they know they have value, that they aren't something to be out there to be traded, as so often happens when they don't have

that fatherly voice saying, You have value, and you have self-respect—that is so key to you. It keeps so many times young girls out of trouble and on that good path.

You can't overstate that role of a father on both sons and daughters and, of course, that very strong support that's needed for your wife, who has to watch the home fires when we're off doing things like this. She needs that.

So what I'm saying to the men who are already fathers or who are would-be fathers is, you've got a very important task, extremely, the most important task—to be that leader of your household. You need to stick with them through thick and thin.

And men, be men. Don't be something else. Grow up. You need to cast off childish things when you've made that commitment to a woman and to fatherhood, because they're watching you. Your neighborhood is watching you. It's the most important thing you'll ever do.

So, Mr. Speaker, I conclude tonight with the thought that, for there to be one Nation under God, men have a very key role in that. That's being that father, and that's holding the family together. No matter what might come and affect it, no matter what legislation or court decision might try to affect or break that family union or make confusing decisions for our children, we have that role, and we can be that guide for their whole lives. It is rewarding for all of us.

With that, I appreciate the time, and I appreciate the gentlelady from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) for leading this discussion here tonight.

Mrs. HARTZLER. I thank the gentleman. That was very, very well said, and I appreciate your encouraging the men to be leaders of their households and to make a difference for their children—the next generation.

I appreciate all of my colleagues who have come tonight so that we could talk about the importance of the fathers and how important it is to have marriage strong in our country.

Every child deserves a mom and a dad. You cannot say that fathers are essential while also making them optional. The presence of a father has such a tremendous impact on the lives of each and every child and on every adult in America. Fathers not only represent the success of our children but also the success of our Nation.

As we get closer to the Supreme Court's ruling concerning the Defense of Marriage Act, it is crucial that we weigh the entirety of the impact such a decision will have on families. My colleague from Oklahoma earlier cited the President in this quote when he stressed the importance of fathers. I think it's very, very good, and I want to repeat it.

President Obama said:

As fathers, we need to be involved in our children's lives not just when it's convenient or easy and not just when they're doing well—but when it's difficult and thankless,

and they're struggling. That is when they need us most.

Every single child in this country deserves the opportunity to have a mother and a father. That is why we must uphold marriage. Not only must we represent the future of our children but also the future of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0045

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NUGENT) at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.

## REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1947, FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-117) on the resolution (H. Res. 271) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1947) to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for June 17 through June 19 on account of medical reasons.

## PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

## AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on June 18, 2013, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology adopted the attached amendment to its Committee Rules:

Rule VI (b) of the Rules of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology is amended to read as follows:

(b) SUBCOMMITTEES AND JURISDICTION. There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, with jurisdictions as follows:

*The Subcommittee on Energy* shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: